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SUNDAY, JULY 3, 1910.

REYNOLDS BROTHERS' PROPOSITION TO THE COUNCIL.

The proposition which the firm of Reynolds Bros. proposes to lay before the city council in connection with the insurance situation is made, we believe, in good faith, and with a sincere desire to relieve the local insuring public of the burden of the additional 10 per cent added to rates by the Southeastern Underwriters' Association and at the same time rehabilitate the insurance business in Newport News. From the standpoint of the insurance agents and companies this is a good proposition. It probably will appeal, too, to the individual insurer who is facing the prospect of having to pay 10 per cent additional for his fire insurance and who thinks only of his own immediate interests without looking into the future.

But the members of the city council are called upon to consider every phase of the situation, and to remember that a fight is in progress in which there is a principle involved. Therefore, they cannot afford to accept Reynolds Brothers' proposition or any other offer of a similar nature, no matter how attractive it may be to some of the individual insurers and to the insurance agents who want to get the business which is being withheld on account of the excessive rates, charged and the dictatorial attitude assumed by the Trust.

Reynolds Brothers ask the council to enact an ordinance providing that any insurance company which will write policies at the rates which were in effect at the time the recent 10 per cent increase was put into effect shall be refunded any money paid in license taxes in excess of a flat charge of \$25 and an ad valorem tax of 2 per cent. In return the firm guarantees to write insurance on all property in the city, the shipyard and Chesapeake & Ohio terminal excepted, in companies not affiliated with the Southeastern Underwriters' Association and at the old rates.

To enact this ordinance would be, in effect, to say to the insurance Trust, "You have beaten us, come back with the old rates and we will cut our license tax in two." The fact that Reynolds Brothers are making their proposition as the representatives of non-board companies does not change the situation. The non-board companies raised their rates along with the companies affiliated with the Trust, and the offer to take off the 10 per cent is made only on condition that the council do just what the Trust is endeavoring to compel it to do—reduce the license tax.

The commonwealth's attorney, assisted by two prominent members of the local bar, is now engaged in an effort to demonstrate that it is unlawful for insurance companies to dictate to municipalities and oppress the public through power gained by combining to fix rates. The police justice has said that the officers and members of the Southeastern Underwriters' Association were guilty of a misdemeanor in exercising this power, and the attorneys for the commonwealth are confident that this opinion is going to be sustained by the higher courts. Furthermore, a considerable portion of the insuring public is effectively resenting the Trust's oppression by refusing to renew policies, and as a result the companies will lose \$20,000 or more annually in premiums until they decide to give Newport News a decent rate. And this paper believes the decent rate will be forthcoming either from board or non-board companies, or both, before this amount has been lost many times.

This fight undoubtedly is working a hardship upon insurers who are compelled to carry policies regardless of their own wishes, and we are sorry to say that this class is numerous in Newport News. But we knew that when the fight started, and it would be the height of folly and weakness in the council to knuckle to the companies simply because we have been reminded of the fact.

When the license tax ordinance is taken up next year, the council will give due consideration to the tax on insurance companies, and if the tax as assessed this year is excessive we believe amendments will be made, just as two members of the finance committee promised a representative of the Trust the day before the famous "pink slip" was sent out. But the council will continue to do its own deliberating and legislating unless and until it has been demonstrated that there is no law in Virginia to prevent a combination of corporations from usurping this duty and prerogative.

A MENACE TO HEALTH AND A NUISANCE.

Because negro laborers object to working at night is no reason for having the paved streets of the city swept during the day. According to physicians who ought to know whereof they speak the practice of sweeping during the day, when the streets are filled with people, is a menace to public health. If this is true the custom should be put under the ban by the city's health department, and this paper believes Mayor Jones has acted wisely in deciding to lay the matter before that department for an opinion. The street committee of the council and City Engineer Pearce of course will not persist in the present custom if they are assured by competent authority that it is dangerous.

Whether or not sweeping by daylight is a menace to health, certainly it is a great nuisance and for that reason alone it should be stopped. If the laborers who are now in the city's employ refuse to work at night, geographers who are not so hard to please.

STREET BEGGING.

The Norfolk Landmark says: Beggars should be banished from the streets in the opinion of both the Richmond Virginian and the Petersburg Index-Appel. The Landmark has long urged the same course. Organized charity will provide for deserving cases; the others should not be encouraged.

This paper has protested against street begging time and again, but it seems almost impossible to have the practice permanently broken up. Worthy people who need assistance can find relief at the Associated Charities' headquarters in the Saviors Rest, to which they can be directed by any police officer or by most citizens. Professional beggars ought not to be tolerated at all. Those who can work and will not belong in jail; those who cannot work belong in the almshouse.

Nobody will be arrested in connection with the trading of votes alleged to have been carried on in the recent election of city officers by the council. However, if there are honest men in the council who were guilty of trading in this election, they will not be particularly happy in remembering that they committed a misdemeanor for which they should be behind the bars of the city jail.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon remark, "If you fellows would take me out and skin me and get down to the place where I keep my sentiments, you'd find that I am better than I look and better than the insurgents and Democrats paint me." All of which recalls what the man said to the husband of an ugly wife who mentioned that beauty was only skin deep.

Norfolk proposes to fine women who wear hats in theaters. It is to be hoped that other cities will follow the example.

That Otis Republican club ought to have known better.

Extracts from Editorials On Senator Daniel's Death

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.)
No public man of his own day and generation has so attracted and held the trusting affection of the Virginia people as John Warwick Daniel. Throughout an active career of nearly half a century he has stood conspicuously forward as the exponent of the best sentiment of the Commonwealth, voicing always a spirit of patriotism too deeply founded to be shaken by considerations of selfish interest, and occupying a moral pedestal so high that those who felt constrained at times to take issue with his opinions on political questions, were always ready to pay tribute to his sincerity of conviction and purity of motive. His brilliant record as a soldier, his commanding figure and classic face, his unswerving tongue and grace of gesture, and a gift of oratory which lacked no essential quality of natural grace or cultured finish—all these bespoke for him initial popularity; but neither one nor all of these pleasing attributes would have sufficed to establish and protract his primacy in the public heart through the trying political vicissitudes of so many eventful years, had he been wanting in those elements of character that owe nothing to chance and yield nothing to change; courage unflinching, truth unquestioning, honor beyond taint or temptation, and a civic conscience as sensitive as that which guided and guarded the conduct of the private gentleman.

His death leaves a vacancy never to be exactly filled. Other Virginians, some great and some good, will inherit the toga to which he lent dignity for nearly three decades; but the school from which his equipment and his standards were derived is lost, and "Take him for all in all, we never shall look upon his like again."

(Norfolk Landmark.)
In referring to the late Senator Daniel as for "thirty years Virginia's favorite son," the published press reports do not overstep the mark. The statement is both a tribute to Major Daniel and a character-sketch of him. Virginia's place in history is such as to warrant the conclusion that she would not give her enthusiastic support to a public man for so long a time unless he were worthy of the distinction.

And John W. Daniel was worthy of the distinction. As a political leader he was practical in the sense of winning his fights, and yet rose head and shoulders above the average of the rowdies of politicians who came and went during his own almost uninterrupted career as the official representative of his people in the highest places they could confer. The people of Virginia knew that Major Daniel would do his best for them, and that he would never do anything dishonorable for anybody. And they would have kept him in the senate of the United States as long as he was able to stay in his seat, just as Alabama would have kept General Morgan after whose death the senior Virginia senator was the most conspicuous representative of his type.

(Petersburg Index-Appel.)
John Warwick Daniel easily took rank as the first man of this generation in the hearts of the people of Virginia. He had won this distinction by a lifetime of devotion and loyalty to their interests and service both in war and in peace. When but a mere youth he left school for the stern duties of war, and so served his State that he won promotion as a reward for his bravery, and carries with him to his grave the honorable scars of wounds received in the front of battle. When the war closed he completed his studies and speedily took high rank in the profession of law, both in active practice and as an author. As an orator he early attracted attention, and for the past forty years was acknowledged as the ablest champion in this State of the principles of the Democratic party. He made more speeches than any other man in the State in support of Democracy, and from the beginning to the end of his public career was identified as a leader with every public movement for the advancement of Virginia's welfare.

(Washington Post.)
Virginia's sorrow is keenly shared by the country at large. Nationally, John W. Daniel occupied a place in popular esteem none but a man exceptionally endowed with lovable qualities could attain. Soldier, lawyer, politician, orator, and statesman, he leaves a record of achievement in each of these capacities which his biographers shall blend into the splendid literary memorial his life work, justly merits, and dedicate the volumes to the good of posterity. But he generation in which Daniel lived saw first in his rounded personality the charm of that component part of greatness which inspires in us a sentiment quite apart from the admiration we bestow upon the possessor of mere force of character. This distinguishing gift or faculty, too elusive for successful portrayal along with the other attributes of his character, passes away with him. In the death of his first citizen of Virginia the old school loses its most representative figure in congress.

(Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch.)
Senator Daniel had a splendid conception of the high office he held. He was a United States senator, and while never unmindful of this State, he gave thought and attention to the grace problems of government that often fail to attract men of another cast of mind. Not always, perhaps, did his view of public questions accord with many of his most devoted admirers, but his singleness of purpose, his absolute rectitude, and his candid intercourse with his people left no question between them. He was a man who was loved and trusted, and he never betrayed the trust.

He was a man of singularly deep affections; if he was much loved in return he loved much. As we recall him today standing a few years ago under the trees of his own beautiful home, surrounded by his family, there was a sense of ineffable love and mutual fellowship and understanding that was as sweet and unmistakable as the odor of the blossoms that bloomed in profusion about them. His was the glow of pride and gratitude for all their feder industries, and their a fixed admiration and solicitude that only a good man inspires in the hearts of wife and children. In every corner of the State today there are tears and dear remembrances of him who sleeps well after life's fitful fever.

(Petersburg Progress.)
John Warwick Daniel, United States Senator from Virginia, orator, statesman and all that goes to make a man great in the estimation of his fellow citizens, will be succeeded, but his place in the hearts of the people and the eminent position he had held for many years, will not be filled. There are no more Daniels left, at least not in Virginia.

(Washington Herald.)
Senator Daniel was a man of uncompromising honesty and tremendous force of character. Whatever he professed, he firmly believed. Convincing and wonderfully persuasive in oratory—a veritable knight in debate—he nevertheless held his every word of mouth strictly accountable to his conscience. He always and inevitably commanded the entire respect of the public, because he never sought to trifle with it or play cheap politics. He was the idol of his immediate constituency in Virginia. The Old Dominion was proud of Daniel, and gloried in his achievements and victories; if he made mistakes, Virginia forgave them, because Virginia knew they were mistakes of the head alone. It had long been thoroughly understood that Daniel should be permitted to die in the Senate if he so elected.

Sensor Daniel's life history is inspiring and uplifting. He was without fear and without reproach—an ornament to his State, distinctly elevating influence in politics, and a citizen to whom the entire nation might be well pleased.

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Ar. Phil., B. & O. Ry. 11:50 a. m.
Ar. N. Y., B. & O. Ry. 2:10 p. m.

Lv. Wash., Penn. Ry. 8:30 a. m.
Ar. N. Y., Penn. Ry. 1:15 p. m.
Lv. Wash., Penn. Ry. 7:30 a. m.
Ar. N. Y., Penn. Ry. 10:40 a. m.

Southbound.
Lv. N. Y., B. & O. Ry. 11:50 a. m.
Lv. Phil., B. & O. Ry. 2:17 p. m.
Ar. Wash., B. & O. Ry. 5:20 p. m.

Lv. N. Y., Penn. Ry. 12:55 p. m.
Ar. Wash., Penn. Ry. 6:16 p. m.
Ar. Wash., Penn. Ry. 10:22 p. m.
Lv. Phila., Penn. Ry. 3:20 p. m.
Ar. Wash., Penn. Ry. 6:22 p. m.

Lv. Washington 8:48 p. m.
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*Daily. **Daily except Sunday.

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